

NEW FOOD PLANTS, LIFE HISTORY NOTES, AND DISTRIBUTION RECORDS FOR SOME AUSTRALIAN LEPIDOPTERA

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This paper records food plants, life history notes and distribution records on butterflies and moths, in addition to those given by Common (1963), Common (1970) and Common and Waterhouse (1981).

PYRALIDAE: PYRAUSTINAE

Pyrausta incoloralis (Guenée)

Asclepias fruticosa L., *Secamone elliptica* R. Br., *Ischnostemma* (*Cynanchum*) *carnosum* (R. Br.) Merr. & Rolfe (Asclepiadaceae). Larvae were reared during February, March and April 1981 in the Brisbane area, Queensland.

HESPERIIDAE

Ocybadistes walkeri sothis Waterhouse

Panicum maximum Jacq. (Poaceae). A larva fed on this grass during July 1981 at Brisbane, Queensland.

Arrhenes dschilus iris (Waterhouse)

An adult was collected on 8 October 1981, 10 km south of Sarina, Queensland. This species has not previously been recorded south of Mackay, Queensland (Common and Waterhouse, 1981).

Pelopidas agna dingo Evans

Ischaemum australe R. Br. (Poaceae). Eggs and larvae were collected on *I. australe* during April 1981 near Toorbul, Queensland. Larvae accepted *Panicum maximum* Jacq. (Poaceae) and were reared to maturity.

PAPILIONIDAE

Protographium leosthenes leosthenes (Doubleday)

Two larvae collected from Canungra, Queensland, pupated during mid January 1980. One adult emerged on 24 March 1981, after 14 months as a pupa. The second pupa discoloured between 13-20 October 1981 and died after 21 months as a pupa.

PIERIDAE

Eurema laeta lineata (Miskin)

Several adults were collected on 8 October 1981, 25 km south of Carmila, and on 10 October 1981, 50 km south of St Lawrence, central Queensland. This species has not previously been recorded south of the Paluma Range, Queensland.

NYMPHALIDAE

Melanitis leda bankia (F.)

Panicum maximum Jacq. (Poaceae). Larvae fed on this grass during March and April 1981 at Brisbane, Queensland.

Pantoporia consimilis consimilis (Boisduval)

Several adults were collected on 8-10 October 1981, 50 km south of Sarina, Queensland. This extends the known distribution of this species southwards from Mackay, Qld.

LYCAENIDAE

Hypochrysops digglesii (Hewitson)

Downey (1966) noted that pupae of many lycaenids are capable of sound production but states the presence of ants is required. I have observed pupae of this species clearly moving abdominal plates 5 and 6 against each other, both in the presence and absence of ants. Pupae were particularly noisy at night, and capable of producing a vibration through the container in which they were held.

Philiris innotata (Miskin)

Adults were collected on 9 October 1981 at Sarina, and 10 October 1981, 50 km south of Sarina, Queensland, where its food plant, *Ficus opposita* (Moraceae), occurs. Further south *Ficus opposita* is also present on many creeks but *P. innotata* could not be found. Subspecies *innotata* and *evinclis* are currently considered geographically separated by the distance between Mackay and Rockhampton.

Ogyris olane ocela Waterhouse

A larva of this species was collected during January 1981 at Leyburn, Queensland. The larva was bred at Brisbane, Queensland, where workers of a local colony of *Plagiolepis alluaudi* Emery, the minute ant, found and attended the larva.

Deudorix epijarbas diovis Hewitson

Cupaniopsis anacardioides Radlk. (Sapindaceae). Larvae were feeding in the fruit during January 1981 at Brisbane, Queensland. Other larval food plants include *Buckinghamia celsissima* (De Baar, 1979), from which adults were bred during June and July 1979.

Rapala varuna simsoni (Miskin)

Buckinghamia celsissima F. Muell. (Proteaceae). An adult was noted ovipositing on the flowers of this tree during December 1980 at Brisbane, Queensland. The flowers persisted until March 1981.

SPHINGIDAE

Hippotion celerio (L.)

Plumeria acutifolia Poir "frangipani" (Apocynaceae). A larva fed extensively on this plant before pupating. The moth emerged on 28 November 1980 at Brisbane, Qld.

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